

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BONN 06464 101815Z
ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7499

S E C R E T BONN 06464

EXDIS

FOR SECRETARY VANCE FROM THE AMBASSADOR

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO WHITE HOUSE FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PSDC, US, GW
SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ON SPIEGEL ARTICLE

REF: BONN 6417

1. JUST AS VAN WELL AND KINKEL THIS MORNING ASSURED US ABOUT FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER'S SENTIMENTS, OTHER POLITICAL FIGURES HERE ARE ATTEMPTING TO MAKE SURE THAT THERE IS NO MISUNDERSTANDING IN THE UNITED STATES ABOUT THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE IMPORTANCE OF GERMAN-AMERICAN TIES, DESPITE THE PRESS REPORTS OF DIFFERENCES ON THE ER WEAPON:

-- THIS MORNING RUHFUS OF THE CHANCELLERY TOLD ME THAT THE SPIEGEL REPORT ON SCHMIDT'S CRITICAL ATTITUDE REGARDING THE US ADMINISTRATION WAS NOT CORRECT, AND THAT SCHMIDT HAD NOT EXPRESSED THE CRITICISMS ATTRIBUTED TO HIM BY THE ARTICLE.

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-- AT LUNCH TODAY, MINISTER OF STATE VON DOHNANYI ALSO REITERATED TO ME , ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S INSTRUCTION, GENSCHER'S ASSURANCE THAT HE HAD BEEN MISQUOTED (REFTEL). DOHNANYI ADDED THAT HE HAD ATTENDED CABINET MEETING FOLLOWING GENSCHER'S RETURN FROM WASHINGTON AND COULD STATE AS A FACT THAT GENSCHER HAD NOT MADE THE STATEMENTS DESCRIBED BY DER SPIEGEL.

-- SEPARATELY, OPPOSITION LEADER KOHL'S OFFICE DIRECTOR TOLD THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR THAT, ALTHOUGH KOHN WAS ATTACKING THE SCHMIDT GOVERNMENT FOR THE INSUFFICIENTLY DECISIVE STAND THAT IT HAD TAKEN ON THE ER WEAPON, KOHL WAS VERY CAREFUL TO MAKE SURE THAT HIS STATEMENTS CONTAINED NO ANTI-AMERICAN REMARKS. UNFORTUNATELY, HE ADDED, NOT ALL OPPOSITION FIGURES WERE OPERATING UNDER THE SAME RESTRAINTS, BUT KOHL'S ATTACHMENT TO THE IMPORTANCE OF GERMAN-AMERICAN COLLABORATION IN ALL AREAS REMAINED CYRSTAL CLEAR.
STOESSEL

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED WHITE HOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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